

1937

34/3164

GENERAL

1937

34/3164



From A.M.

CO 323/1455/28

Date 24th June.

K. 83
 Mr Carr
 Mr Begg
 Mr Greany
 Mr ...
 Mr Cade
 R 89 (lf)
 R 208

PUT BY

AVIATION

Trans-Pacific Service to New Zealand.

Ref 15/- and 33/- the copy of cable of 13/6/37 from Rear-Admiral Cundy. Ships at New Zealand Station - Welcomes int contained therein & assumes that New Zealand Govt. will take opportunity of arranging investigation of air facilities at Suva & that investigation may be as comprehensive as possible.

MINUTES

It appears from the corresp. on 26 27 2/37 that when H.M.S. Wellington visited Canton Is. in connection with the N.Z. Total Solar Eclipse Expedition, 1937, she found the U.S. newspapers located there on a similar mission, and reported that the U.S. Govt. did not admit our claim to that island (among others).

The B.O. are inviting the attention of the U.S.A. to the fact that the Phoenix Group forms part of the G. & E. Is. Group. Meanwhile the High Comm. for the W. Pac. has invited H.M.S. Achilles to investigate the position in the R.A.C. NZ. R.N. has replied that he will visit the Phoenix Group in August when H.M.S. Achilles is on passage from Honolulu to Suva (see 20 on 26 27 2/37).

We have no means of knowing whether the R.A.C. will be accompanied by an officer

competent

Connected papers.

7/7/37
 34. amended.
 8/7/37

F. A. M.
 A. O.
 A. M.

Competent to advise whether Suva is suitable for
use as an air base; but as the H. Co./Gov. is in
direct communication with the R.A.C. it would
not seem that we can do anything useful at
this stage.

? put by
J. R. B. de
29.6.37.

The AM have still not answered the
question asked in 15/-, and it is not
clear what basis there is for the
assumptions made in paras 2 & 3 of this
letter.

Clearly the AM would welcome an
investigation of the nature proposed by the
Gov, but they are apparently unwilling to
take any steps to assist.

I should be disposed to reply to 15/- by
tel saying that AM. would welcome
investigation of landing facilities at Suva
& suggest that Gov should consider whether
such an investigation could be undertaken
during forthcoming visit of H.M.S. Achilles.
Add that in order that investigation may be
a comprehensive as possible the Gov will no doubt
consider desirability of consulting Wing Commander

Cochrane as to exact nature of information
required.

It might be well to invite HM concurrence
in the terms of the tel.

W. J. Lewis
30/6

G. Gray.
1.7.37

← P. V. Verma

2/7 am

Copy